

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 were pending in the application. Claims 3, 12, 13, 17, 19, 21, 26, and 28-30 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 14, 16, 18, 22-25, and 27 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-11, 14-16, 18, 20, 22-25, and 27 are now pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13-15, 17, 19, 26, and 28 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates Examiner's consideration of these claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-12, 16, 18, 20-25, 27, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawrence et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,867,701) in view of Wong (U.S. Patent No. 5,790,374).

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 7 and 14. Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 12 and 13. Claim 16 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 7 and 17. Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 7 and 19. Claims 22-24 have been amended to incorporate the features of original claim 14. Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 24 and 26. Claim 27 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claims 24 and 28. Applicant submits that each of the amended claims 1, 7, 16, 18, 22-24, 25, and 27 recites a combination of features deemed allowable by the Examiner. In accordance, amended claims 1, 7, 16, 18, 22-24, 25, and 27 are believed to patentably distinguish over the cited references, whether alone or combined. Claims 2 and 4-6 depend on amended

claim 1 and claims 8-11, 14-15, and 20 depend on claim 7, and are therefore believed to patentably distinguish over the cited reference, whether alone or combined, for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-71600/BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario J. Lewin
Reg. No. 54,268
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800
Date: 9-28-05